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Your submission for this review:

We are carers who are with an agency that doesn't support or facilitate the costs with adhering to the additional policy costs and structures. We are carers who provide the utmost emotional, physical and financial support to our foster daughter. We provide out of school activities, sporting, private school etc. we ensured she got the best health access when she was growing with OT, monitoring and assessments with all specialists. She has been fortunate to not have any detrimental effects and meets and exceeds her age based milestones. Yet, she still has to have unnecessary tests with multiple specialists and the agency refuses to pay for any of it. They say that comes out of our allowance. We would never contemplate reducing her activities or giving her the best opportunities in life and we are fortunate that we can afford those things, but for other carers it becomes a choice between providing engaging, life improving activities or box ticking medical appointments. Secondly, away from the financials, the agencies have lost core focus, they do very little to support the carers to provide the best support to their little ones rather than just box ticking (safety is and should be number one, and should not be discounted) exercises. There needs to be a refocus on support and providing a network for carers rather than just get them on board as employees and then just pump them through the system to support the volume of children rather than providing the quality of care to these special kids. We have never regretted our decision to be carers, our little girl makes it worthwhile every single day, she is beautiful and special but we would never contemplate being foster carers again because there is a distinct lack of consideration for the children and carers.